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SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 1905.

Payment by Check

Announcement was made in our news columns, yesterday afternoon that the Secretary of the Treasury had abandoned his scheme to pay the clerks of the executive departments by check. This is well. The scheme was long ago proven impracticable and valueless in private or non-governmental enterprises, and it has decidedly not justified itself in its four trials by the Government.

Three things were to be accomplished if the system worked. The disbursing clerks were to be safeguarded against dishonesty. Labor was to be saved. The clerks were to be taught lessons of thrift by semi-monthly visits to the banks.

As a matter of fact not one of these three things came to pass.

Checks are no prevention of theft if disbursing clerks are dishonest. One of them, of that type, was able to steal \$35,000, according to our news account, by one single signing of his name. Instead of trying to trick these officials into honesty the Government should first choose the best men it can find and pay them the salaries which such men deserve. Then let it examine their accounts frequently and without the slightest indulgence. Except that the examinations of their accounts were perfunctory there is hardly a disbursing clerk out of the half-score who have gone wrong who could have committed more than one theft.

In labor the check system seems to have been three times as expensive as the cash system.

The argument as to thrift falls like all the rest. What chance has the average clerk at thrift? His salary is either \$1,200 or \$1,400. He has a family trained to enjoy the physical comforts of life, fond of good clothes, eager for the newspapers and magazines. Their income barely buys what they have been taught to regard as the necessities of life in Washington. Give the head of such a household—and Washington is made up of families like this—a wage proportioned to the present cost of living and he will not need be paid by check to teach him thrift. The urgent danger which threatens him every day of losing his place when he has grown old, his utter dependence on his own earnings—these considerations have impressed upon him the need for saving until, almost invariably, it is the chief ambition of his life. It is a great injustice to call the average clerk improvident. A large measure of improvidence passed out of the executive offices with the spoils system.

Yet Secretary Shaw should not be discouraged by this one failure. There are abundant means to improve the methods of the Government, even though payment by check is not one of them.

A Good Illustration.

The value of the Interstate Commerce Commission, either with its present powers or with those extended ones which the President desires granted, is not to be estimated by the number and character of its decisions and orders. It is constantly urged against the commission that it issues few orders, and that on appeal many of these cannot be enforced.

An illustration of the unfairness of this view is afforded in the Southern oil rates matter. A short time ago Southern oil producers filed complaints showing that rates on oil from Northern or Standard Oil points to the South were about double those on oil from Southern or non-standard points to the North. It was insisted that this enabled the Standard to invade Southern territory, but absolutely shut the Southern dealers out of the Northern territory.

It was shown that these conditions were widespread, and in effect constituted a tremendous advantage to the Standard, secured by methods quite characteristic of the Rockefeller trust. The Southern oil people demanded an order to equalize the rates in the opposite directions.

It is now announced that the railroads have yielded the point contended for. They have reduced the rates of Southern oil going North, so that they will hereafter be the same as on Northern oil going South.

The Southern shippers and producers have gained their point, but the record will not show that anything was done by the commission. It will simply be one more case of a complaint filed and withdrawn. Yet the fact is that the oil men in the South had employed every device to secure fair treatment from the rail-

roads before they went to the Interstate Commission. Utterly unable to extort fair treatment, they appealed to the commission; and the railroad case was so weak that they yielded without making a defense.

It is to meet such extreme and rank cases as this that the President wants the commission empowered to revoke an unreasonable rate and fix a new one. He does not ask that the commission make all rates, as has been constantly urged by opponents of the proposed legislation.

Light for the Philippines.

America's course in Cuba has been the admiration—and the wonder—of the world. If Theodore Roosevelt has his way, her course in the Philippines will be more admirable—and more wonderful—still.

An indication of this was offered in Secretary Taft's testimony before a committee of Congress last winter when he outlined what he characterized as his own hope for the Philippines. He looked forward to ultimate self-government for the people of the islands. He thought the training for that privilege the chief present duty of the United States in relation to the islands. And he held to the opinion that the first step toward those two results lay in the direction of a popular assembly which should be given more and more power as it proved more and more fit for the exercise of power.

Yesterday the Secretary confirmed that indication. He spoke avowedly as the mouthpiece of the President. "On my part it is due you," he said to his native hosts, "that if I do nothing else tonight I should make clear the views of the Administration upon the present and future of the islands." Thereupon he outlined the views of the American people—a considerable number of whom "have the real imperialistic idea," a second party who, however reluctant they were to accept the duty thrown upon them, "believe they have become the trustees and protectors of the whole Philippine people," and a third party "which favors giving the islands immediate independence." With that, the Secretary makes this formal declaration:

The second party has for its chief exponent President Roosevelt. He believes that it is the duty of the United States to prepare the Philippines for self-government. This will require a generation, and probably longer, and the form of self-government will be left to the individuals who will be formed by the nations at that time. It follows that the President, and he himself desires me to say this to the Philippines, feels charged with the duty of proceeding on this policy and maintaining the sovereignty of the United States here as an instrument of the gradual education and elevation of the whole of the Philippine people to a self-governing community. A popular assembly will be formed, if no insurrection exists, in April, 1907. The Administration's policy is: "The Philippines for the Filipinos." If the American officers are not in sympathy with this policy, they will be recalled. It is the President's desire that all work for their benefit.

Of course, no administration can pledge its successors. Mr. Roosevelt's formal statement through his Secretary of War may very possibly be set aside. But as far as the President of the United States can commit the nation to any policy, Theodore Roosevelt has committed us to these distinct policies for the Philippines:

First—Order throughout the archipelago.

Second—Training for self-government.

Third—A popular assembly to be formed in the absence of revolution, in April, 1907.

Fourth—Ultimate independence as Cuba is now independent.

As the Secretary has said, the great majority of the people of the United States have accepted the responsibilities of the Philippines with the utmost reluctance. But they do not fear to take hold of them seriously and they will not fail to support a plan of action which accords with the highest principles of democratic government.

The Kansas.

Hereafter it will be "What's the matter with the Kansas?"

It wasn't to be expected that a battleship named after the Sunflower State could be like other battleships, or do anything as other battleships would do it. A battleship of that name would turn turtle if the rest of the fleet was insisting on keeping a correct attitude, and would keep straight and walk a crack if all the rest were turning bottom upward. It would be sure to fight after the rest had been cleaned out, and would probably win the fight.

It was, of course, fated that something should go wrong with the Kansas—or at least go unusual. Governor Hoch's daughter christened her, and used water instead of wine, as a delicate tribute to the sensibilities of the Kansas W. C. T. U. Any old tar could have told her that it was a sad mistake. The W. C. T. U. doesn't have to sail or fight the battleships of Uncle Sam's navy. If it did it would have them christened with champagne, because it would in that case know, what all sailors know, that no ship can be slipped down the ways to an auspicious career on any other lubricant except champagne. The hoodoo that hovers over the ship that is not properly christened works days and nights and Sundays, and its sleeping habits are an infringement of the Pinkerton motto.

Because Miss Hoch used water instead of wine, the Kansas stuck halfway down the ways, and had to be

pried loose and shooed into her native element. The onlookers cheered meekly and mildly; they knew it was all wrong and had no heart in their cheers.

But in the case of the Kansas it will not do to be too positive in pessimistic expressions. The Kansas has the eccentricities of the State for which she is named, but she may also prove to have the genius. Since the whistlers have been shoved off a lot of Kansas ideas that used to be awfully funny populism, the Republican and Democratic parties have been rather disposed to quarrel about who saw them first. They are now accepted as statesmanship; but they came from Kansas.

And so may it be with the new Kansas, christened with the water that Kansas loves in times of drought and hates in times of flood. The Kansas may have started a little oddly, but it'll wobble right. For it's the Kansas.

Mr. Balfour a Crystal Gazer.

Now the news is that Mr. Balfour is a crystal gazer. That is what the thing is called in England. Some one has lent him a crystal ball and he has been looking into it, and he has seen a friend sitting at a table miles away. That is all that is told with positiveness. But more is conjectured.

The first thing that will occur to the thoughtful is that the Philosophy of Doubt has been misunderstood. If you look at it through a crystal ball it may all become clear. Some other Englishman than his author has called it the Philosophy of Gout, but surely he is a vulgar soul who never looked through a crystal ball in his life. For our part we are going to read the Balfour defense of philosophical doubt all over again just as soon as some one provides us with a crystal ball.

Then there is the possibility that the crystal ball is a pair of spectacles and a magic mirror combined. In that event who knows what a manly chest and warlike mien impressed the prime minister when the rest of the world saw only a languid and nonchalant figure toying with an adverse vote from the house of commons like a sick child. Maybe the crystal ball self is like that of Hamlet's father:

Hyperion's curls; the front of Jove himself;
An eye like Mars' to threaten and command.

Last of all there may be power enough in this sphere of crystal to transform the Balfour statesmanship. That exhibition of real feeling, which the loyal conservative papers noted not long ago with so much awe, may have been really the only weakness of an entire lifetime. The fruitless efforts at reforming the army, the vacuous and ill-digested scheme of redistribution, the needless affronts to the Irish, even the pitiable lack of pride that keeps a man in office as the supporter of a protective tariff and absolute free trade at the same time—these things may all be transformed.

Yet it may be—it is a wicked thought, to be sure—that Mr. Balfour has taken to crystal gazing as a refuge from the garish sights revealed to the naked eye in the ordinary light of day.

Hoch der Kansas!

Hardly worth while to hold it, is it, when the weather does it for us?

Already the peace dove is flying about like a fat old hen trying to escape from a rumor that the preacher is coming to dinner.

Would you have remembered that this is the anniversary of the fall of Manila?

The President's address reads like an announcement to the Senate and some others that he will consent to no humiliating peace.

To the Reciprocity Congress: Be sure you're right, and then reach out with your biggest stick for the Senate.

Well, if they insist on going ahead with the war, indications are that we will have bumper crops from which to sell supplies to both sides.

In handing out this weather, Mr. Moore is certainly getting back at his traducers in great style.

The army officers whose names haven't been mentioned in the testimony are just hoping that people will not generalize too much from what they read.

Republicans think they have a chance of carrying Virginia, barring a possible slump from Seap.

The Government is going to build good hotels for the Panama canal employees. Probably it'll be cheaper in the long run than cemeteries.

Secretary Wilson's attitude in the matter of labeling food products has aroused antagonism. If the Secretary is responsible for any of these breakfast food names, he needn't count on our sympathy.

ACCORDING TO THE ENVOYS.

"I liked your town," said Mr. Witte. "Your busy streets, your harbor gay. And most especially my call On Theodore, at Oyster Bay; And Portsmouth will be pleasant, too. It is a quaint old spot, I see. Your great politeness," added he, "With Nicholas will make a hit. And, as a bond of unity, Should—how—Make peace?—Oh, no, dear me!"

"This trip has been a fruitful one. Of great results without a check. A splendid man, your President," Komura says, (per Sato, Sec.). "From this momentous stay of mine A host of blessings soon will flow; Across the great Pacific bend We'll hail it as a further bond 'Twixt you and us, from which will grow Er—what was that?—Make peace?—Oh, no!"

—T. R. Y., in New York Sun.

CASTRO IS NOW MORE FRIENDLY

May Welcome Advent of Judge Calhoun.

EVEN READY TO HELP HIM

Change in Policy Due to Better Understanding of Object of Calhoun's Mission.

CARACAS, Venezuela, Aug. 12.—The feeling in official circles as to Judge Calhoun's mission to Venezuela has been modified during the last few days, as it is now believed he is to investigate and not to interfere.

If that is his mission, he will be aided considerably from various sources, and perhaps even the government will give him information which will change the aspect of matters and render his prolonged stay unnecessary.

It is declared that President Castro holds some cards which he has not played yet and that there will be consternation among some powerful interests in the United States when he does play them.

There is a scandal brewing, and when it breaks it will make other scandals which have had their source in Caracas seem tame.

Castro Is Firm.

On the receipt by the government of the news of Judge Calhoun's appointment to a special mission to Venezuela President Castro took the firmest possible stand.

The government newspapers echoed the official policy toward the appointee in an editorial which ridiculed the idea of there being any American claims to adjudicate, with the possible exception of the asphalt case, which is still in the courts and therefore not yet open to discussion.

At just this time the American charge d'affaires presented to the minister of foreign affairs a copy of the "roster" from the United States Government to the German ambassador at Washington against the new debt arrangement between Venezuela and the British and German bondholders.

This was adversely criticized in government circles, coming as it did, after the financial contract had been accepted by congress, and the government made the immediate move of paying half the millola, corresponding to the first half year, placing that amount to the order of the British and German legations.

Payment Important.

The importance of the payment just at this time is evident as it is the consummation of years of negotiation on the part of General Castro and of General Velutini, his financial agent in Europe. The official press said:

"Nobody will have any right, from today on, to interfere in our internal affairs, because the fulfillment of every financial obligation by the government has gone into the hands of the correspondents of that nationality, and they are calling to their papers words of most lavish praise of the great Russian statesman. He certainly has been a tremendous power in breaking down any barrier and dispelling any coldness that might easily have been developed between the emissaries of the two warring nations."

STRIKE OF BAKERS NEAR A SETTLEMENT

Only Point on Which an Agreement

Remains Lacking Is the Question of Pay.

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—After a conference between committees of the striking Hebrew bakers and of the "boss" bakers in the Educational Alliance Building, this afternoon, it was officially announced that the strike had practically been settled.

Herman Robinson, representing the strikers, declared that the employers had agreed to almost all of the demands of the workmen, including a ten-hour day and a recognition of the principles of the union. The only point on which an agreement was not reached was that of pay, which, it is declared, can be speedily adjusted without further fighting between the men and the "bosses."

Strike leader Kurtz was taken seriously ill during the conference, and was removed to a nearby drug store.

CONTENTS OF WILL OF CASSIE CHADWICK

Requests Intended by Queen of High Finance Are Made Known.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Aug. 12.—The contents of the will of Mrs. Cassie L. Chadwick, the queen of high finance, became known today.

The homestead on Euclid avenue is bequeathed to her husband, Mary Ann Bailey, her mother, leaving to her \$5,000 a year, \$25,000 at twenty-five, and the rest at thirty years of age.

The remaining third of the estate was to have gone to Mary Chadwick, to be paid at the rate of \$25,000 a year till she was thirty years old, when the balance was to have been paid.

In the event of the death of her husband or either of the children Mrs. Chadwick directed that that portion should go to charitable institutions.

GOOD HUMOR AND ODDITIES AT THE PEACE CONFERENCE

PORTSMOUTH, Aug. 12.—The first incident to show that the real war feeling had been brought here was the disappearance of the Japanese and Russian flags that flew over the Hotel Wentworth. The Japanese are quartered in the main building of the hotel, which is that to Portsmouth and first comes in sight when they drive from that city.

The Russians are in the annex, which is over the slopes of the hill on which the hotel stands. When M. Witte and Baron Rosen came up the road from Portsmouth yesterday afternoon the most conspicuous thing they saw was the Japanese flag, standing out stiff as a board in the lively breeze that came in from the sea. The Russian flag was not visible, although it was flying over the annex. M. Witte was plainly angry. His anger grew when he found that the Russian flag had been hoisted upside down by a Yankee porter.

Commander Takeshita, the naval attaché, was not so fortunate. He found himself at the sudden disposal of the music, which was the signal for scrambling for a seat, with his black head on the floor and his feet in a chair.

Thought Komura Small Enough for Canary's Food

PORTSMOUTH, Aug. 12.—Baron Komura, who is a tiny man about four feet tall and weighing about ninety pounds, was in a fix about his breakfast the other morning. Something was wrong. "What's up?" asked the head waiter of a captain.

"Something's wrong with the baron's breakfast," the captain replied. "Pshaw!" said a summer boarder who had been studying the baron closely. "Give him a little canary seed. That will be enough."

Envoys Brought Stock of "Wet Goods" From Home

PORTSMOUTH, Aug. 12.—An interesting thing about the envoys is the amount of baggage they are carrying. They have not as yet got things straightened out, as each party has about a carload, and it embraces everything imaginable from clothes to various varieties of "wet goods."

They did not know about all the American brand, so they brought along a supply of their own—Russian vodka and Japanese sake.

The envoys are now, with most of their baggage, completely at home at the Wentworth, and they announce themselves as more than delighted with the quarters that are assigned to them. The Japanese are located on the second floor and the suite of rooms reserved for them is immediately over the main office, commanding a beautiful view of the ocean and beach.

He sent for representatives of Mr. Peirce and made a complaint. He said he did not care to walk under the Japanese flag every time he entered the main door of the hotel, nor did he care to have the members of his suite walk under the flag.

He pointed out that they must all, more or less, be in the lobby of the hotel; that no Japanese need come under the Russian flag, as the annex was far removed from the main portion of the hotel, and commanded by Mr. Peirce that the hotel proprietor should remove the flags.

The flags were removed. Only the Stars and Stripes flew over the Hotel Wentworth today, and that will be the only flag that will fly over the hotel during the conference.

Witte Makes a Hit With All, Even the Japanese

PORTSMOUTH, Aug. 12.—M. Witte is becoming a great favorite with the Japanese, and especially the correspondents of that nationality, and they are calling to their papers words of most lavish praise of the great Russian statesman. He certainly has been a tremendous power in breaking down any barrier and dispelling any coldness that might easily have been developed between the emissaries of the two warring nations.

The Russians are located in what is known as the second section of the hotel, and their rooms are similarly situated, being over the branch office of this part of the hotel.

They, too, have a beautiful ocean and landscape view spread before them, and they say that a more delightful place could not have been selected.

Japanese Wanted No Safe With Worrying Combination

PORTSMOUTH, Aug. 12.—The Russians got a safe yesterday. Today the Japanese decided they wanted a safe also, and they ordered one from Portsmouth. The safe dealer brought it out, a nice, new, shiny safe with a knob and a combination.

"What is that?" asked the Japanese, pointing to the combination knob. "Why," said the safe man, "that is the combination. You turn it this way and turn it that way, and then you open the safe."

"No, no," said the Japanese. "Take it away. We do not know what it is. Bring us a safe with a key."

And the safe man had to do it.

MRS. DUBOIS' ACTION SAVES LIFE OF BABY

Wife of Idaho Senator Protects Infant From Injury in a Carriage Accident.

MANILA, Aug. 12.—The quick wit and heroic action of Mrs. Fred T. Dubois, wife of Senator Dubois of Idaho, who, with her husband, is a member of Secretary of War Taft's party here, today saved the life of the one-year-old infant of Dr. Charles Stafford, her host.

Mrs. Dubois was thrown from a carriage in which she was driving, and although she protected the infant from injury she was stunned and remained unconscious for three hours. She was taken to the hospital in an ambulance. While her injuries are not considered dangerous, she was severely bruised and jarred and her condition will probably prevent her going on a southern trip with Mr. Taft, Miss Roosevelt, and other members of the party.

Mrs. Dubois was the guest of Dr. and Mrs. Stafford, prominent American residents of Manila. She was driving with the one-year-old baby of her host and hostess, and its nurse when the horses ran away. The nurse was not injured.

PROFESSORS RECEIVED BY EMPEROR WILLIAM

WILHELMHOEHE, Prussia, Aug. 12.—At the castle here, today, Emperor William received Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia University, New York, and Prof. Burgess, also of that university.

WEAVER WANTED TO LEAD FUSION

Quaker City Mayor Boomed for Governor.

ROOSEVELT BEHIND HIM?

Reported That Administration Looks With Favor Upon Philadelphia Reformer's Candidacy.

Any doubts that Mayor John Weaver, of Philadelphia, is a consummate politician as well as an honest man and a skillful boss buster, have been set at rest.

Mayor Weaver went up to Wilkes-Barre, made a splendid address on the necessity for independence in municipal politics, held a long and highly satisfactory conference with the President, and returned home to find himself possessor of a boom for governor, with a Senatorial seat farther in the background.

With the Independents.

Mayor Weaver not only succeeded in making it clear that he was going to support the independent movement in this fall's campaign, but established firmly the impression that his course has the endorsement of the President. As a result consternation reigns in the demoralized camp of the city and State machines.

Senator Knox was acclaimed, at the same time, the State Republican leader, as against Penrose. The work of revolution goes on apace, and Weaver is the hero of the hour.

The mayor has not indicated that he is willing to take a nomination for governor. Some of the people who want him to run would make him a Republican candidate, leading a reorganized and purified party; others consider that he must run as candidate for a fusion of Democrats and anti-gang Republicans. By this course alone, it is urged, can the old gang be finally and definitely given the coup de grace.

Then, the gang being annihilated, Weaver being governor, the organization being in the hands of his friends, it will be possible to shape things for the preservation of control by the better element, at least until the people go to sleep again.

With Folk and La Follette.

Weaver, his enthusiastic supporters declare, is now fairly on the way to a place with Folk, of Missouri, and La Follette, of Wisconsin. They are confident that he has the national administration with him, and that he will win if he becomes a candidate for governor. That election would place him in line to succeed Penrose in the Senate; and this is said to be the plan.

"MAD" DOG BIT MAN AND THEN WAS SHOT

Fox Terrier Escaped Master on D Street, Near Tenth—Police-man Caught Him.

Supposed to be suffering from rabies, a white fox terrier was shot through the head and instantly killed by Policeman Samson, of the First precinct station, last night. The body was subsequently removed to the District pound, where it will be examined by employees at the Bureau of Animal Industry.

It is said that several persons were bitten by the dog while it was running amuck on D street, near Ninth street northwest, shortly after 8 o'clock. Policeman Samson, who patrols that beat, was unable to find more than one victim. That was Howard Langdon, of 1018 Sixth street northwest.

The young man was walking along D street, when the dog, which was being led about by a boy, jerked the cord out of the lad's hand, and, running to Langdon, buried its teeth in the calf of his right leg. Langdon stooped down and tried to make the dog loosen its hold, but the animal hung on until Samson beat it off with his club.

Samson took hold of the cord, and with the dog and 200 people following him, he went to the First precinct station. There he was ordered to do whatever he thought best, and he took the animal up an alley near the First precinct station and killed it.

The dog that bit Langdon is said to have been the same one that bit another man about ten days ago, costing him a doctor's bill of \$25.

POLICE MAKE A RAID ON A GAME OF CRAP

Police of the Sixth precinct last night made a successful raid on the stable in the rear of 309 Sixth street northwest, and as a result Frank Evans, colored, and several of his "pals" were locked up. Evans is charged with permitting gaming on his premises while the others are merely held for disorderly conduct.

The raid was made by Sergeant Conlon, Policemen McKeever, McCarthy, Beauregard, Sprinkle and Boswell. It is alleged that they have been watching the stable since Evans has been in charge at night, for several months. Last night there were about fourteen crap shooters in the place, and the police confiscated several pairs of bones which will be used as evidence against Evans in court tomorrow.

One man jumped from the loft to the ground and made his escape. Another took the sash and all of the window with him when he jumped through it. He also escaped.

TERRIBLE HAILSTORMS DEVASTATE GERMANY

BERLIN, Aug. 12.—Terrible hailstorms swept western and southern Germany and the eastern portion of France, destroying the crops and the fruit trees in many places.

In the Rhineland and Moselle districts many persons were seriously injured. Cloudbursts inundated many places.

At Appenweier, Baden, the roof of the railway station was blown off for 600 feet.